

OPINIONS ABOUT SMOKING FROM AROUND THE WORLD CARDS

Please share the following with your REBEL 2 students:

In many instances the grammar is poor, either because of the English skill level of the individual, the informal nature of email, or the lack of attention given to writing and editing the statement. Before sending your work to any public forum, you should always check it and double-check it to make sure it is of the best quality it can be.

MEGAN, CANADA

I am an athlete. Growing up I was constantly around cigarettes, so you guessed it – I started to smoke too. But as a few years passed my sports got more and more difficult. Although I didn't see a change at the beginning I definitely did in the long run. Now, years later I still have breathing problems even though I quit. I understand that everyone wants to experiment, but I can say to all you athletes out there – don't make the mistake I made. Smoking may not have caused me my life, but it caused me to lose the chance at being a professional athlete, which to me is the same thing. Don't be stupid guys, you're better than that!

Tamra, U.S.A.

People say that smoking is bad, and I agree, even though I do it.

I started because I knew my mom would flip out, and I also wanted to see what she would do, since she allows my brother, 2 months older than me, to smoke. She wouldn't allow me.

Myra, Canada

Being a smoker but a very caring person, I think it should be restricted to a segregated area in the pub, restaurant or wherever you may need a smoke. You shouldn't put people through what they don't want. I know though that when it is very cold I love walking to a restaurant to have a cup of coffee and a few smokes. So you can see my dissatisfaction when I get there and can't smoke.

Anonymous, Portugal

Smokers have the right to smoke but, the NON-Smokers also have the right to be in public places without being disturbed by the smoker's fumes and tobacco pollution.

Rachel, England

I totally agree with those who say smoking is a bad and disgusting habit. It is no longer an acceptable pastime where you would sit in a room and talk and smoke at the same time we know that it is bad and kill thousands everyday, but still we have tens of thousands of people who smoke, why? That is the question we should be asking ourselves – why would we smoke this little white stick that we know will kill us its like putting a gun to our heads but the death is a slow and painful one.

Sarah, U.S.A.

Teens should have the right to pick if we want to smoke or not, we are people to let us make are own mistakes and let us learn for them and if that means but us dieing than that is what it is.

Youngil, Korea

I think that at first, most teenagers start to smoke the cigarettes to imitate their parents or friends who smoke. Particularly, parents influence their kids as a role model. So, if the parents smoke, their kids can accept smoking naturally. Parents who smoke have to know that they can lead their kids to have a bad habit. Because smoking affects not only smokers but also non-smokers, the kids can also have health problems because of their parents. We have to keep our kids from smoking environments.

Farid, Algeria

Smoking is a bad habit, of course. But there is nothing we can do about it. It is already there. We can not deny or ignore it. On the one hand, the smokers aren't guilty just being smokers. They have their rights. On the other hand, the non smokers are affected by the fumes and feel that smokers are stepping on other people's rights. Allowing smoking in certain public places is the only way to avoid the conflict between the two kinds of people without bothering each other.

Eulalie, Zaire, Republic of Congo

Smoking has been around for thousands of years. It has been used for social activities; for example, Native American Indians used it to get together in groups and smoke peace pipes. In this century, smoking is like a fashion for teenagers, and they're not being educated about the danger of smoking.

Erin, U.S.A.

I think smoking is wrong no matter if you are in a public place or in the please of your own home. It's wrong. It kills billions every single day. Billions get diagnosed every single day with some sort of disease because of smoking. I think a law should be made against smoking. Smoking should not be allowed period.

Gilmer, Venezuela

I'm a smoker, and I think that smoking is something bad for our society and health, even though it is our problem if we do smoke. In my opinion, we should have the right to smoke unless we are bothering somebody. I mean if we are close to somebody; for example, I show respect to somebody who is sitting right in front of me and doesn't like smoking. But if I'm sitting or walking alone, I smoke.

Public places don't mean that we can do whatever we want, but we should have the right to smoke. As for myself, I do respect public places like restaurants, airports, subways and cinemas, but if I'm in the middle of a big street or square, I smoke.

Mehmet, Turkey

First of all, I would like to talk about the right to smoke.

Nobody wants to say if another person can smoke or not. So far, and luckily, I am a nonsmoker, but I could have become a smoker, and I wouldn't have wanted to get a reaction from nonsmokers. We have to learn that we need respect between us. If we are in a car or public place with somebody who smokes, we shouldn't have to remind him not to smoke. He should do what is right because we keep the respect between us. He can smoke, but he should know how and where to smoke. Ok, sometimes we need some rules like non-smoking and smoking sections. Even though we have these good rules, I don't know why people want to ignore them.

Maybe they are just trying to keep their rights. I think, if the people just want to keep their rights, they will cause stricter bans.

Chris, New York

I think smoking is bad for u because u can get sick.

Katie, Canada

If smoking is pretty much the main cause of death, why is it even legal? A lot of people don't even realize how dangerous it is to their health and most of all to others. I really think they should be told!

Richard, U.S.A.

I understand that tobacco is addictive and very difficult to stop using later in life, but I will stand by my statement that anybody who starts smoking today and lives in the U.S. or another developed country where the harmful effects are clear has either lived under a rock his whole life or is just plain stupid.